



News and Events in the 5th Grade
December 12th, 2011
www.op97.org

Important Dates

Dec. 15th	All School BINGO
Dec. 23rd	Ethnic Fest
Dec. 1-31	Oak Park Public Library Art Show

Dear Families,

Our Outdoor Education field trip was awesome! Thank you to the group of parents who chaperoned this trip. We could not have had a successful trip without your help.

In recognition of their generosity toward the **Bound 4 Success** book drive, students have earned a game of "All School Bingo". We will be playing Bingo during the afternoon on Thursday 12/15. Ms. McCauley would love parent volunteers to assist students who may not be familiar with the game. Grades K-2 will be playing from 9:30am to 10:30am, and grades 3-5 will be playing from 1:45pm - 2:45pm. If you are able to volunteer, please contact your child's homeroom teacher.

For those students who have a Lexia Reading account, it is now available at the Oak Park Public Library (Main Branch)! Students may access Lexia Reading on the homework hub machine, located in Study Room 1A in the Children's Department.

Finally, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) has announced an initiative called "Connect to Compete" to bring low-cost broadband and computers to millions of low-income Americans. This effort will offer families eligible for the National School Lunch Program discounted monthly broadband Internet and a laptop or desktop computer, and free digital literacy training. "Connect to Compete" will begin in select cities in Spring 2012. For more information e-mail info@connect2compete.org.

Specials

Art - Most 5th Graders have artwork on display at the Oak Park Public Library through the month of December. Come see our surrealistic self-portraits completed in the style of Renaissance artist Arcimboldo Giuseppe. The artwork is downstairs in the "Art Alcove" in the Children's Section. www.owholmesartgallery.blogspot.com

Music - The 5th Grade Specials Night is coming on Tuesday, February 7th. Please save the date! (More information to come later)

Spanish - Students are working with the story *Carlos y los Tres Monstruos*.
www.mpoleski.blogspot.com

Library - Information can be found on the Holmes Library page on our school website, <http://www.op97.org/holmes/mediacenter/>.

Physical Education - Please see Mr. Williams' link (www.d97mrwilliams.blogspot.com) for information.



Reading/Literature TREASURES - UNIT 3 Unit Theme/Big Idea

Using Your Wits

Selection Titles:

1. Anansi and Common Sense
(Stage play adapted from a Jamaican folktale)
2. Catch of the Day: A Trickster Play
3. The Fox and the Crow

Comprehension Skill

Theme, Moral

Word Study Skill

Analogies

Language Arts/Writing

Writing Assignment: Last week, students began researching information about the source of renewable energy they chose to write their feasibility report on. Students will have time in-class on Monday to conduct further research, however, they may have to do some additional research at home. Students will have the opportunity to begin typing their final draft of the feasibility report in class on Friday, 12/16.

Math

Graded quizzes will be returned to students by Wednesday. This week, we will be focusing on adding and subtracting fractions with unlike denominators. We will have a test covering fraction addition and subtraction on Friday. We will review in class on Thursday.

All students should now have access to the Xtramath (www.xtramath.org) and the Khan Academy (www.khanacademy.org) websites. Students should be using these websites to practice their math facts at home. The goal is automatic recall of basic addition, subtraction, multiplication and division math facts.

Science

This week in Science, we will be continue working on the feasibility study. We will complete the energy audit in class and calculate the cost of electricity used. Students will use the information from the energy audit in their feasibility studies. The feasibility study due date has been changed. Feasibility studies must be submitted before winter break. Students will continue their Green Friday activities this week. 5K will be working with the worm bins, 5P with recycling and 5M will be composting.

Social Studies

Students handled debating the theories of Roanoke very well. They did an excellent job of stating evidence and challenging other theories respectfully. All three classes said they would like to debate more often, so we will weave more of these debates into our topics since history nearly always has more than one perspective or "side." We'll continue our focus on the first colonies this week.

Visit the **Holmes Digital Backpack** - <http://www.op97.org/holmes/digitalbackpack/>

We're on the Web!

Visit us at: <http://holmes5thgrade.wikispaces.com/>

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